

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing amendments is respectfully requested.

Summary of Amendments

Upon entry of the foregoing amendments, claims 41-71 are cancelled and claims 72-102 are added, whereby claims 72-102 will be pending, with claims 72, 86 and 95 being independent claims.

Support for the new claims can be found throughout the present specification and in the original claims.

Applicants point out that the cancellation of claims 41-71 is without prejudice or disclaimer, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter of the cancelled claims in one or more continuation and/or divisional applications.

Summary of Final Office Action

Claims 41-71 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly obvious over Dubowoj, DE 19937813 (hereafter "DUBOWOJ").

Response to Office Action

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection set forth in the Final Office Action are respectfully requested. At any rate, since all of the rejected claims are cancelled, all of the rejections of record are moot.

With respect to the new claims submitted herewith, Applicants are unable to see that the document relied upon by the Examiner teaches or suggests the (combination of) elements recited therein. This is an additional reason (i.e., in addition to the reasons set forth in the Appeal Brief and the Reply Brief) why DUBOWOJ is unable to render anticipate or render obvious the subject matter of new claims 72-102.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If any issues yet remain which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,
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